Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-28 (canceled).

Claim 29 (previously presented): A composition comprising a ion-dissociative functional compound represented by a chemical formula as follows:

C_m-$(CF_2$-Gp1$)_n$

where, m is a natural number for carbon atoms to form a spherical carbon molecule; n is a natural number; and Gp1 denotes an ion-dissociative group.

Claim 30 (previously presented): The composition as defined in claim 29, wherein C_m denotes a fullerene molecule.

Claim 31 (previously presented): The composition as defined in claim 29, wherein the ion-dissociative group is a proton-dissociative group selected from the group consisting of hydrogensulfate ester group (-OSO_2OH), sulfonic acid group (-SO_2OH), dihydrogen phosphate ester group (-$OPO(OH)_2$), hydrogen phosphate ester group (-OPO(OH)-), phosphono group (-$PO(OH)_2$), carboxyl group (-COOH), sulfoneamide group (-SO_2-NH_2), sulfoneimide group (-SO_2-NH-SO_2-), methanedisulfonyl group (-SO_2-CH_2-SO_2-), carboxamide group (-CO-NH_2), and carboximide group (-CO-NH-CO-).

Claim 32 (previously presented): An ionic conductor which contains the ion-dissociative functional compound defined in any of claims 29 to 31.

Claims 33 -36 (canceled).

Claim 37 (previously presented): A composition comprising an ion-dissociative functional compound having a linkage structure represented by a chemical formula as follows:

C_m-CF_2-Gp2-CF_2-C_m

where, m is a natural number for carbon atoms to form a spherical carbon molecule; and Gp2 denotes an ion-dissociative group.

Claim 38 (previously presented): The composition as defined in claim 37, wherein C_m is a fullerene molecule.

Claim 39 (previously presented): The composition as defined in claim 37, wherein the ion-dissociative group is a sulfoneimide group.

Claims 40-57 (canceled).